



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse
Services**

3001 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-3001
Tel 919-733-7011 • Fax 919-733-1221

Michael F. Easley, Governor
Carmen Hooker Odom, Secretary

Mike Moseley, Director

July 26, 2004

MEMORANDUM

To: Legislative Oversight Committee Members
MH/DD/SAS Commission
Consumer/Family Advisory Committee Chairs
Advocacy Organizations and Groups
North Carolina Association of County Commissioners
County Managers
Chairs of Boards of County Commissioners
North Carolina Council of Community Programs
Area Program Directors
Area Program Board Chairs
Provider Organizations
MH/DD/SAS Professional Organizations and Groups
MH/DD/SAS Stakeholder Organizations and Groups
Other MH/DD/SAS Stakeholders
DHHS Division Directors
DMH/DD/SAS Facility Directors

From: Mike Moseley

**Re: Communication Bulletin # 024
CAP/MRDD Waiver Team**



As many of you know, the Division has been planning for several years to make changes to the Community Alternatives Program for Persons with Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities (CAP/MRDD) Medicaid waiver. This effort was delayed by the reorganization of the Division, but I have now taken steps to elevate and accelerate the process.

I have named a special CAP/MRDD Team made up of staff from across the Division that will be led by Leza Wainwright, Deputy Director. Although the members of the special Team will still be responsible for tasks related to their "home" team assignment, I have made it clear to the Section Chiefs and Team Leaders that the work of the special CAP/MRDD Team is a priority.

I have charged the CAP/MRDD Team with completing two work products within an aggressive timeline. By August 15, 2004 the Team will have completed a final draft of a new CAP/MRDD

waiver. This waiver will be written to address some of the problems that are well documented regarding the current waiver, such as the absence of standardized utilization review and level of care processes. It will maintain the traditional provider-delivered service and supports approach.

To address the best practice and growing demand for self-determination in MR/DD through self-directed services and supports, the Team will begin work on developing a Medicaid Independence Plus waiver application as soon as the "basic" waiver application is submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). As part of this effort the Team will closely examine current Division rules which may limit self-direction and make changes to those rules as necessary. Our goal is to have the Independence Plus waiver submitted to CMS no later than June 30, 2005 for an implementation date of October 1, 2005. We believe that having both waivers operate concurrently will provide the greatest flexibility for consumers and their families and will allow us maximize the number of consumers served with the funding available through the Waiver programs.

Throughout this work effort, the CAP/MRDD Team will actively solicit stakeholder input. The final draft of the 'basic' waiver will be available for review and comment no later than August 15, 2004. Since the Independence Plus approach is new to North Carolina, we plan to specifically identify ways to engage stakeholders and consumers and families in the development of that waiver.

Please contact Leza Wainwright at (919) 733-7011 or via electronic mail at Leza.Wainwright@ncmail.net if you have questions about the activities or deliverables of the CAP/MRDD Waiver Team.

cc:	Secretary Carmen Hooker Odom	Jim Klingler
	Lanier Cansler	Dick Oliver
	James Bernstein	Kaye Holder
	DMH/DD/SAS Executive Leadership Team	Wayne Williams
	Rob Lamme	Richard Slipsky
	DMH/DD/SAS Staff	